

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

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FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1562

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E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: PINT, GR

SUBJECT: JUSTICE MINISTER DEFENDS JUNE 1 "REVOLUTION"

1. IN ADDRESS TO LARGE GROUP OF LAWYERS, DOCTORS AND PROFESSIONAL MEN HERE LAST NIGHT, SECRETARY TO PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF JUSTICE IOANNIS AGATHANGELOU ASSERTED THAT IN FACT PM PAPADOPOULOS STATEMENT AND ACTION OF JUNE 1 WAS "NEW REVOLUTION", AND IT WAS "INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED LEGAL TENET" THAT SUCCESSFUL REVOLUTION INCORPORATES PRINCIPLE OF SOVEREIGNTY AND RIGHT TO CREATE LAW. THUS NEW PRESIDENT HAD RIGHT TO ESTABLISH GOVERNMENT IN MANNER HE DEEMED BEST. HOWEVER IT WAS FELT IN BEST INTERESTS OF NATION TO ASK PEOPLE "AS SOURCE OF ALL SOVEREIGN POWER" TO PASS ON MERITS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION OF 1968 WITH REFERENDUM.

COMMENT: THIS APPEARS EFFORT TO RECONCILE APPARENTLY CONFLICTING STATEMENTS OF GEORGALAS AND STAMATOPOULOS AS TO PURPOSE OF REFERENDUM AND ITS BEARING UPON LEGALITY OF GOVERNMENT.

2. AGATHANGELOU, HIMSELF A LAWYER FROM THESSALONIKI, REMINDED HIS AUDIENCE OF THE

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"GOVERNMENT" S CONSTITUTIONAL OBLIGATION" TO CREATE

CONSTITUTIONAL COURT THIS YEAR: TO HOLD MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS AND "PROCLAIM PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS TO BE HELD AT SPECIFIC DATE", AND ALLOW OPERATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES, ALL IN 1974: AND IMMEDIATE TERMINATION OF SUSPENSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL ARTICLES GUARANTEEING INDIVIDUAL AND POLITICAL LIBERTIES.
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